

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph number [0018], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0018] In the present invention, the outer shell fabric(s) is preferably joined to the protective cushion at portions along a pair of opposite sides. This is because the joint portions of the outer shell fabric to the protective cushion may easily ~~are easy to~~ increase the volume of the protective cushion in the folded state. By reducing the number and volume of the joint ~~portion~~ portions between the outer shell fabric and the protective cushion as ~~smaller~~ small as possible, the volume of the protective cushion in the folded state can be reduced.

Please replace paragraph number [0019], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0019] Alternatively, by shifting the joint portions from between said cabin-side base fabric and said window-side base fabric ~~from the~~ to the joint portions of the outer shell fabric(s) relative to the protective cushion, the volume of the protective cushion in the folded state can be reduced.

Please replace paragraph number [0031], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0031] Also in this exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the protective cushion element 31 comprises a cabin-side base fabric or sheet 32 and a window-side base fabric or sheet 33 which are sewn to each other by sewing yarns in order to form a chamber 34 between the base fabrics 32 and 33. The base fabrics 32, 33 are joined to each other by joints or seams formed with sewing yarns including a line-shaped joint 40 extending around the peripheries of the base fabrics (with some parts thereof extending inward of the base fabrics 32, 33), line-shaped joints 41, 42, 43, 44 for subdividing the chamber 34 and for restraining the thickness of the cushion by a predetermined amount, and circular joints 45 for reinforcing areas around ends of the line-shaped joints 41-44.

Please replace paragraph number [0034], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0034] The outer shell fabrics 51, 52 may have a rectangular shape different from the shape of the cabin-side base fabric 32 and the window-side base fabric 33 as main parts. The shape of the outer shell fabrics 51, 52 may include any shape in which the outer shell fabric is capable of substantially entirely covering depressed portions C (which are described further below). The outer shell fabrics 51, 52 may include any shape in which the outer shell fabric is capable of substantially corresponding to the shape of the window-side base fabric 33 or the cabin-side base fabric 32. The outer shell fabrics 51, 52 may be made of the same fabric of the protective cushion element 31 and are preferably made of relatively thin fabric of, for example, 70-210 deniers in order to reduce the volume of the folded cushion as small ~~smaller~~ as possible.

Please replace paragraph number [0035], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0035] The outer shell fabrics 51, 52 may be bonded to the protective cushion element 31 by adhesives 55. In the exemplary embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 1(a)-1(c), the adhesives 55 are applied to the outer surfaces of the protective cushion element 31 into a narrow band shape along the line-shaped joint 40 at the front end and the rear end of the cushion. The adhesives 55 are ~~shifted~~ spaced from the position of the line-shaped joint 40. In this embodiment, the adhesives 55 are located on the outside of the line-shaped joint 40 of the protective cushion element 31.

Please replace paragraph number [0041], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0041] In order to reduce the volume of the cushion when folded, the adhesives 55 and the adhesive 39 are preferably arranged to not be superposed ~~not to superposed~~ on each other like the illustrated embodiment.

Please replace paragraph number [0042], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0042] Though the outer shell fabrics 51, 52 are ~~separated~~ separate pieces in the aforementioned embodiment, the outer shell fabrics may be outer shell fabrics 51A, 52A composed of one continuous piece as shown in Figs. 5(a), 5(b). The piece for the outer shell

fabrics 51A, 52A is folded ~~double~~ along the center line L and is superposed on and bonded to the protective cushion element 31 by the adhesive as shown in Fig. 5(a).

Please replace paragraph number [0044], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0044] Though the outer shell fabrics 51, 52 are arranged on both the cabin-side and window-side of the protective cushion element 31 in the aforementioned embodiments, the outer shell fabric 51 may be arranged on the cabin-side only. According to this arrangement, ~~there is possibility that~~ the protective cushion 30 may warp ~~warp~~s toward the inside of the cabin when the protective cushion 30 is inflated. Therefore, it is preferable that the outer shell fabrics 51, 52 are arranged on both sides. As the outer shell fabrics 51, 52 are arranged on both sides, the protective cushion 30 never warps and is inflated into a symmetrical configuration relative to the cabin-side and the window-side.

Please replace paragraph number [0045], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0045] The protective cushion element and the outer shell fabrics may be fixed by sewing instead of adhesive. In this case, the outer shell fabrics may be sewn to the protective cushion element at the same time as sewing the outer periphery of the protective cushion element, thereby reducing the number of manufacturing steps. The outer shell fabric may be fixed to the window-side fabric and cabin-side fabric so that the connecting joints that connect the outer shell fabric to the cabin-side fabric are not symmetrical to the connecting joints connecting the outer shell fabric to the window-side fabric about a line dividing the section of the outer shell fabric covering the cabin-side fabric from the section of the outer shell fabric covering the window-side fabric.

Please replace paragraph number [0047], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0047] As described above, the present invention can provide a protective cushion for head protection which can ~~[[be]]~~ sufficiently absorb the impact even with portions at/around the depressed portions of the protective cushion element.

Please replace paragraph number [0049], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0049] Given the disclosure of the present invention, one versed in the art would appreciate that there may be other embodiments and modifications within the scope and spirit of the invention. For example, in one embodiment of the present invention the outer shell fabric may only be ~~plae~~ placed on the side of the cushion facing the passenger. Accordingly, all modifications attainable by one versed in the art from the present disclosure within the scope and spirit of the present invention are to be included as further embodiments of the present invention. The scope of the present invention is to be defined as set forth in the following claims.